

Sample Naloxone Protocol

Protocol to Initiate Dispensing of Naloxone for Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response

Purpose: This protocol specifies the criteria and procedures for eligible pharmacists, who have met the requirements and received certification from the Board of Pharmacy, to initiate the dispensing of naloxone.

Criteria: Persons eligible to receive naloxone under this protocol include:

- 1) Persons with history of receiving emergency medical care for acute opioid poisoning or overdose
- 2) Persons with a suspected history of substance abuse of nonmedical opioid use
- 3) Persons receiving high-dose opioid prescriptions (>100 mg morphine equivalent)
- 4) Persons who are opioid naïve and receiving a first prescription for methadone
- 5) Persons starting buprenorphine or methadone for addiction treatment
- 6) Persons on opioid prescriptions for pain in combination with:
 - a. smoking, COPD, emphysema, sleep apnea, or other respiratory illness
 - b. renal dysfunction, hepatic disease, or cardiac disease
 - c. known or suspected alcohol use
 - d. concurrent benzodiazepine or other sedative prescription
 - e. concurrent antidepressant prescription
- 7) Persons who may have difficult accessing emergency medical services
- 8) Voluntary request

Medication: For patients meeting the above criteria, this protocol authorizes the pharmacist(s) to initiate the dispensing of naloxone as follows:

For intranasal administration:

Naloxone 2 mg/2 ml prefilled syringe

Dispense #2

SIG: Spray one-half of syringe into each nostril upon signs of opioid overdose. Call 911. May repeat x1 in 3 minutes if no or minimal breathing and responsiveness

Atomizer No. 2; MAD 300

For parenteral administration:

Naloxone Hcl 0.4mg per 0.4 mL autoinjector (Evzio)

Dispense #1

SIG: Administer into the anterolateral aspect of the thigh, through clothing if necessary upon signs of opioid overdose. Call 911. May repeat x 1 in 3 minutes if no or minimal breathing and responsiveness

Education: Pharmacist will provide and document in the pharmacy management system that persons receiving naloxone under this protocol were education on the following:

- 1) Risk factors for opioid overdose, strategies to prevent opioid overdose
- 2) Signs of opioid overdose
- 3) Steps in responding to an overdose
- 4) Information about naloxone
- 5) Procedures for administering naloxone
- 6) Proper storage procedures and expiration date of naloxone product dispensed

Documentation: Pharmacists will document via prescription record each person who receives a naloxone prescription under this protocol. In addition to standard information required in the prescription record, documentation will include name and title of person providing education to recipient of naloxone.

[If directed by the authorizing physician] The pharmacist shall provide written notification via fax to the authorizing physician of persons receiving naloxone under this protocol within 7 days of initiating dispensing.

Terms: This protocol is in effect until rescinded or for 2 years after the effective date as indicated on this protocol.

Signatures:

Physician

Date

Pharmacist

Date

Pharmacy Address

Pharmacist

Date

Pharmacy Address


Pharmacist

Date

Pharmacy Address

Sample Naloxone Patient Education Sheets

How to Avoid Overdose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only take medicine prescribed to you • Don't take more than instructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call a doctor if your pain gets worse • Never mix pain meds with alcohol • Avoid sleeping pills when taking pain meds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose of unused medications • Store your medicine in a secure place • Learn how to use naloxone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach your family + friends how to respond to an overdose
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Are they breathing? →


Signs of an overdose:

- Slow or shallow breathing
- Gasping for air when sleeping or weird snoring
- Pale or bluish skin
- Slow heartbeat, low blood pressure
- Won't wake up or respond (rub knuckles on sternum)

Call 911 for help

All you have to say:
"Someone is unresponsive and not breathing."
Give clear address and location.






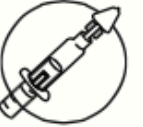
Airway →

Make sure nothing is inside the person's mouth.

Rescue breathing

Oxygen saves lives. Breathe for them.
One hand on chin, tilt head back, pinch nose closed.
Make a seal over mouth & breathe in
1 breath every 5 seconds
Chest should rise, not stomach

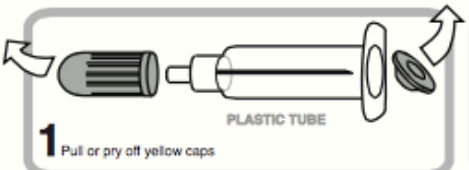





Prepare Naloxone

Are they any better? Can you get naloxone and prepare it quickly enough that they won't go for too long without your breathing assistance?

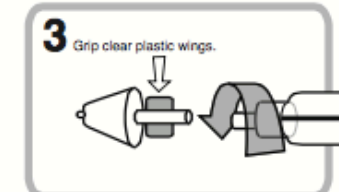
PrescribeToPrevent.org



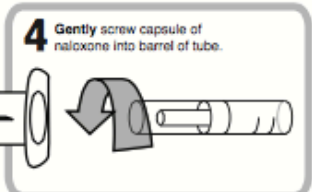
1 Pull or pry off yellow caps



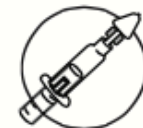
2 Pry off red cap



3 Grip clear plastic wings.

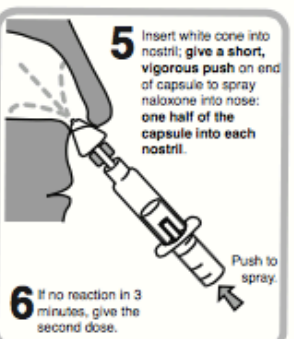


4 Gently screw capsule of naloxone into barrel of tube.



Evaluate + support

- Continue rescue breathing
- Give another 2 sprays of naloxone in 3 minutes if no or minimal breathing or responsiveness
- Naloxone wears off in 30-90 minutes
- Comfort them; withdrawal can be unpleasant
- Get them medical care and help them not use more opiate right away
- Encourage survivors to seek treatment if they feel they have a problem




5 Insert white cone into nostril; give a short, vigorous push on end of capsule to spray naloxone into nose: one half of the capsule into each nostril.

Push to spray.

6 If no reaction in 3 minutes, give the second dose.

Source: HarmReduction.org





Are they breathing?

Signs of an overdose:

- Slow or shallow breathing
- Gasping for air when sleeping or weird snoring
- Pale or bluish skin
- Slow heartbeat, low blood pressure
- Won't wake up or respond (rub knuckles on sternum)



Call 911 for help

All you have to say:

"Someone is unresponsive and not breathing."
Give clear address and location.



Airway

Make sure nothing is inside the person's mouth.



Rescue breathing

Oxygen saves lives. Breathe for them.

One hand on chin, tilt head back, pinch nose closed.

Make a seal over mouth & breathe in

1 breath every 5 seconds

Chest should rise, not stomach



Evaluate

Are they any better? Can you get naloxone and prepare it quickly enough that they won't go for too long without your breathing assistance?



Prepare naloxone

- Remove cap from naloxone and uncover needle
- Insert needle through rubber plug, with bottle upside down
- Pull back on plunger and take up 1 cc into the syringe
- Don't worry about air bubbles (they aren't dangerous in muscle injections)



Muscular injection

inject 1cc of naloxone into a big muscle (shoulder or thigh)



Evaluate + support

- Continue rescue breathing
- Give another shot of naloxone in 3 minutes if no or minimal breathing or responsiveness
- Naloxone wears off in 30-90 minutes
- Comfort them; withdrawal can be unpleasant
- Get them medical care and help them not use more opiate right away
- Encourage survivors to seek treatment if they feel they have a problem

How to Avoid Overdose

- Only take medicine prescribed to you
- Don't take more than instructed
 - Call a doctor if your pain gets worse
- Never mix pain meds with alcohol
- Avoid sleeping pills when taking pain meds
- Dispose of unused medications
- Store your medicine in a secure place
- Learn how to use naloxone
- Teach your family + friends how to respond to an overdose

For More Info
PrescribeToPrevent.com

Poison Center
1-800-222-1222
(free & anonymous)